

November 19, 2009

Marc Lafrance
Technology Development Manager
United States Department of Energy, Office of Building Technology
1J-018, EE-2J
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585-0121

Dear Marc:

The Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) would like to offer its support for the ***R-5 Windows Volume Purchase*** being pursued by the Department of Energy. We understand that the project's purpose is to increase the availability and facilitate wider market adoption of highly insulating windows.

CEE is an award-winning consortium of energy efficiency program administrators including utilities from across the United States and Canada who work together on common approaches to advancing efficiency. Through joining forces, the individual efficiency programs of CEE are able to partner not only with each other, but with other industries, trade associations, and government agencies. By working together at CEE, administrators leverage the effect of their funding dollars, exchange information on effective practices and, by doing so, achieve greater energy efficiency for the public good.

CEE maintains 20 member committees, which convene to discuss shared opportunities to improve efficiency and develop approaches to pursue these opportunities at a bi-national level through initiatives. Once an initiative is established, CEE members voluntarily elect to participate by supporting the energy efficient products and services that are identified in the initiative through their local, state-wide, and regional efficiency programs.

One of the committees CEE administers is a Whole House Committee of program managers working on energy efficiency in new homes, existing homes, and the windows product area. The Committee has held preliminary discussions on the energy savings potential of highly insulating windows and in early 2010, it will begin consideration of a possible initiative to achieve greater energy savings from windows.

The cost effectiveness of more efficient windows will be a factor in both the Committee's consideration of a possible initiative and in individual members' assessment of whether to offer

efficiency programs that may include incentives. (From a program administrator's perspective, cost effectiveness considers whether the energy savings benefits of investing in a more efficient product/service outweigh the costs of making the investment.) A successful DOE volume purchase that increases the availability of lower priced, high efficiency products will increase the likelihood that the Committee and individual program administrators would be able to demonstrate the cost effectiveness of these products.

As CEE leads the Committee in its exploration of a possible windows initiative in coming months, work will include:

- Disseminating information and increasing awareness about the availability of high efficiency products to member efficiency program administrators and
- Discussing possible program designs (including marketing strategies and incentives) that members could use to promote these products locally.

CEE has effectively used these approaches in other residential markets including the clothes washer, refrigerator, and fluorescent lighting markets, and is confident of their applicability to the area of windows. We look forward to working closely with DOE and our members to introduce these new products to the marketplace.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Marc J. Hoffman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marc Hoffman
Executive Director